

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12-19 are cancelled.

Amended claim 1 is supported by the features of claim 1 as originally filed and by paragraph [0036] of the description and figure 5 of publication US 2007/0228997 A1 (see last paragraph on page 10 et seq).

Amended claim 2 is supported by the features of claim 2 as originally filed, by the description of the embodiments of the invention and by figures 1 and 2 for example.

Claims 1, 9 and 11 are rejected as anticipated by Segoshi et al.

The circuit arrangement according to Claim 1 as amended is not shown or suggested by SEGOSHI et al (US 5,124,895) since SEGOSHI et al doesn't disclose a series resonant circuit or a voltage-multiplying cascade or a symmetrical voltage-doubling circuit for supplying voltage to a pulse ignition apparatus (as originally claimed). The voltage-doubling circuit according SEGOSHI et al is not a symmetrical voltage-doubling circuit but a charge pump circuit. If the positive voltage is applied to AC

terminal 416 then only capacitor 131b is arranged in the current path via diode 131a, but if the positive voltage is applied to the other AC terminal 417 then both capacitors 131b, 131d are arranged in the current path via diode 131c (figure 3 reference numbers 131a to 131d and column 4 lines 25-44 of US 5,124,895). This is in contrast to the symmetrical voltage-doubling circuit of the circuit arrangement according to the invention where capacitor C7 is charged via diode D4 during the positive half wave of the AC voltage and capacitor C8 is charged via diode D5 during the negative half wave of the AC voltage.

The symmetrical voltage-doubling circuit of the circuit arrangement according to the invention has the advantage of an approximately symmetrical current consumption during the positive and negative half-cycle of the supply voltage and avoids asymmetrical magnetic saturation of the core of the transformer of the voltage output of the voltage converter (paragraph [0015]). The circuit arrangement according to SEGOSHI et al doesn't have this advantage and hence the circuit arrangement according to claim 1 is not rendered obvious by SEGOSHI et al doesn't.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 are rejected as anticipated by Harada.

The circuit arrangement according to the invention is not shown or suggested by HARADA et al (US 2005/0179406). HARADA et al doesn't disclose the pulse ignition apparatus having an ignition capacitor (C3), a rectifier diode (D3), a resistor (R1), a spark gap (FS) and an ignition transformer (T2) with a primary winding (L2a) and a secondary winding (L2b). Nor are these requirements suggested.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 10 are rejected as anticipated by Muramatsu (US 7,084,580).

The circuit arrangement according to the invention is novel and undesirous with respect of prior art reference MURAMATSU (US 7,084,580). MURAMATSU doesn't disclose the load circuit of the circuit arrangement according to the invention. In particular, the load circuit according to the invention comprises terminals for a high-pressure discharge lamp and the ignition voltage output of a pulse ignition apparatus which is established by the secondary winding of the ignition transformer of the pulse ignition apparatus, whereas the load circuit according to MURAMATSU only comprises terminals for a high-pressure discharge

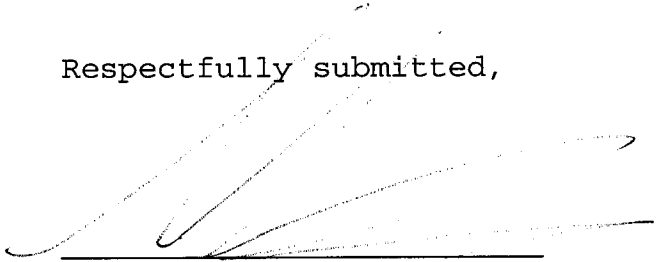
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lamp (Fig. 1) but does not include an ignition transformer since the circuit arrangement does not require an ignition transformer (column 7 lines 44 to 48). Without the requirement, using one is not obvious.

In view of the above, the rejections are avoided. Allowance of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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